

New Broadway.

We have been looking at the rough map appended to the Ann-street widening resolution, and will try to give the reader an idea of what is proposed. Starting from Ann-street we measure 103 feet along Park-row, then cut in so as to take all the lots up to the *Express* Office, running back on the regular lot boundary about a hundred feet, then cut off the north side of Ann-street straight to William, sixty feet, so as to make Ann-street one hundred feet wide, save at the gore on Park-row, where it will open over one hundred and forty feet, in order to give a splendid view of the City Hall and allow room for the grand curving and switching of railway tracks. From William-street there is to be a diagonal cut through the block from the junction of William and Ann to the junction of Gold and Fulton. This entirely new street, being one hundred feet wide, will leave scarcely anything of that busy block save two right-angled triangles of small area. Having reached Fulton-street at the junction of Gold, the project is to cut off or widen on the south side of Fulton about 50 feet, through to Water-street, involving the destruction of the old United States Hotel. From the front of the hotel to the river the street is wide enough, except that a small cut must be taken off the market near South-street.

The project is more important than was at first imagined. It will involve the purchase of six or seven lots and buildings on Park-row; then all the lots and buildings on the north side of Ann-street to William; then very nearly all the block bounded by William, Ann, Gold and Fulton; then all the lots on the south side of Fulton-street, from Gold to Water-street. Instead of the paltry sum named in our first hasty estimate, this "improvement" will cost several millions of dollars. Yet it was originated without petition and without notice on the 26th of December and perfected on the 30th—only four days being taken to saddle the people with four millions of expense.

By the way, there is one document remotely connected with this affair that may be worth mentioning. It is a communication from Mayor GUNTHER to the Common Council, suggesting the "improvement," and dated, if we remember rightly, early in September, but which does not seem to have reached the Aldermen until the middle of December. May we be permitted to suggest that over three months is rather a large margin of time to take in transmitting a note from the first to the second floor of the City Hall? And may we modestly ask, how did it happen?